Wild & Scenic River Review

Price Resource Management Plan - Planning Bulletin #3

February 2003

Price BLM Inventories Rivers and Streams

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 is designed to preserve free-flowing rivers with special values in their natural condition for the use and enjoyment of the public, balancing the nation's water resource development policies with river conservation and recreation goals.

Therefore, this Act states, "In all planning for the use and development of water and related land resources, consideration shall be given by all federal agencies involved to potential national wild, scenic and recreational river areas..." [Section 5(d)(1)]. As part of the current Price Resource Management Plan (RMP) revision, the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Price Field Office is conducting an inventory of rivers and streams within the management area to determine if they are eligible for designation under the Wild and Scenic River Act.

In order to be eligible for inclusion into the national system of rivers the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act specifies that a certain criteria be met. A river must be "free-flowing" and must exhibit one or more "outstandingly remarkable" scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar value. These values must be at least regionally significant. A river's flow is sufficient as long as it sustains or complements the outstandingly remarkable value for which the river would be eligible.

In the consideration or review process, eligible rivers are given a tentative classification. The Wild and Scenic Act provides three possible classifications: wild, scenic, or recreational. These classifications are based on the type and degree of human development associated with the river and adjacent lands present at the time of inventory. They also prescribe what management activities would be allowed to occur along a river, as long as no outstandingly remarkable value is compromised. The wild classification is most restrictive of management activities, while the recreation classification is least restrictive, allowing for some development to occur. Final classification is determined if and when a river is designated into the national system by Congress.

The Price Field Office has made a preliminary review of eligible rivers and streams based on information provided during public scoping, independent inventories, coordination with other government entities, and an interdisciplinary review. Before making a final determination of eligible rivers, the Price Field Office is requesting any information you might have that could change the preliminary determination of the free-flowing condition or outstanding remarkable values that are identified on the attached table. Also attached is a map showing the locations of these rivers and streams. Please review this information.

Rivers or river segments determined to be eligible during this initial step of the study process will be analyzed in the RMP EIS to determine if they are suitable to be recommended for Wild and Scenic Rivers designation. If found to be suitable, those rivers and streams are then recommended to Congress for designation as a Wild & Scenic River. As stated above, BLM is conducting this review as a part of the resource management planning process.

Thank you for your participation in this eligibility process. If you have any questions or would like additional information on this inventory, please contact Brad Higdon or Floyd Johnson at 435-636-3600. Please send your comments by March 28, 2003 to:

Bureau of Land Management
Price Field Office
Attn: Wild and Scenic Rivers Program
125 South 600 West
Price, UT 84501

For more information on the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System go to www.nps.gov/rivers Please visit www.pricermp.com for information on the Price Resource Management Plan.

Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Inventory

Preliminary Determination of Eligible Rivers on Lands Administered by the Price Field Office

Segment Name	Segment Description	Outstandingly Remarkable Value(s)	Tentative Classification
Barrier Creek	Canyonlands National Park boundary to mouth at Green River	scenic, recreation, cultural, ecologic	Wild
Bear Canyon Creek	Headwaters to mouth at Rock Creek	fish, scenic	Wild
Buckhorn Wash	Road crossing at Buckhorn Flat to mouth at San Rafael River	recreation, historic, cultural, wildlife, scenic	Recreational
Buckskin Canyon Creek	Headwaters to mouth at Rock Creek	fish, scenic	Wild
Cane Wash	Head of wash to mouth at San Rafael River	cultural, scenic, recreation	Scenic
Coal Wash	North and South Forks of Coal Wash to confluence with North Salt Wash	recreation, scenic, cultural, historic	Recreational
Cottonwood Wash	Head of wash to county road at T. 20 S., R. 13 E., Sec. 14	scenic, cultural	Wild
Devils Canyons	Road crossing at T. 22 S., R. 9 E., Sec. 9 to materials site at mouth of canyon	wildlife, recreation, scenic	Wild
Eagle Canyon	Springs at head of canyon to Secret Mesa road crossing	scenic	Recreational
	Secret Mesa road crossing to confluence with North Salt Wash	scenic	Wild
Fish Creek	Scofield Reservoir to confluence with White River	fish, ecologic	Scenic
Gordon Creek	Confluence of Bob Wright and Mud Water Canyons to mouth at Price River	cultural, historic	Scenic
Green River	County line near Nine Mile Creek to Chandler Canyon	scenic, recreation, wildlife, historic, fish, geologic, ecologic, cultural	Wild
	Chandler Creek to Florence Creek	scenic, recreation, wildlife, historic, fish, geologic, ecologic, cultural	Scenic
	Florence Creek to Nefertiti boat ramp	scenic, recreation, wildlife, historic, fish, geologic, ecologic, cultural	Wild
	Nefertiti boat ramp to I-70 bridge	scenic, recreation, wildlife, historic, fish, geologic, ecologic, cultural	Recreational
	I-70 bridge to mile 91 below Ruby Ranch	scenic, recreation, wildlife, historic, fish, geologic, ecologic, cultural, paleontologic	Scenic
	Mile 91 below Ruby Ranch to Hey Joe Canyon	scenic, recreation, historic, cultural, fish, geologic	Wild
	Hey Joe Canyon to Canyonlands National Park boundary	scenic, recreation, historic, cultural, fish, geologic	Scenic
Keg Spring Canyon	Head of canyon to mouth at Green River	scenic, cultural, recreation, ecologic	Wild
Mesquite Wash	Head of wash to mouth at Coal Wash	scenic, wildlife	Wild

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Outstandingly

Tentative

Segment Name	Segment Description	Outstandingly Remarkable Value(s)	lentative Classification
Muddy Creek	Manti-La Sal National Forest boundary to I-70	cultural	Recreational
,	I-70 to Lone Tree Crossing	scenic, recreation, geologic, historic, cultural	Wild
	Lone Tree Crossing to South Salt Wash	scenic, recreation, geologic, historic, cultural	Scenic
	South Salt Wash to county road below San Rafael and North Caineville Reefs	scenic, recreation, geologic, historic, cultural	Wild
Nine Mile Creek	Minnie Maude Creek to Bulls Canyon	historic, cultural, scenic	Recreational
	Bulls Canyon to mouth at Green River	historic, cultural, scenic	Wild
North Fork Coal Wash	Head of wash to Fix It Pass route	recreation, scenic, cultural, historic	Wild
	Fix It Pass route to confluence with South Fork Coal Wash	recreation, scenic, cultural, historic	Recreational
North Salt Wash	Confluence with Horn Silver Gulch to mouth at San Rafael River	scenic, wildlife, recreation, cultural	Wild
Price River	Confluence of Fish Creek and White River to Poplar Street bridge in Helper	fish, recreation	Recreational
	Mounds bridge to Hwy. 6 at Woodside	cultural, historic	Scenic
	Hwy. 6 at Woodside to Trail Canyon	scenic, cultural, geologic, wildlife, fish	Recreational
	Trail Canyon to mouth at Green River	scenic, cultural, geologic, wildlife, fish, recreation	Wild
Range Creek	Headwaters to Trail Canyon	cultural, scenic, historic, wildlife	Wild
	Trail Canyon to drill holes at T. 17 S., R. 16 E., Sec. 27	cultural, scenic, historic, wildlife	Recreational
	Drill holes at T. 17 S., R. 16 E., Sec. 27 to mouth at Green River	cultural, scenic, historic, wildlife	Wild
Rock Creek	North Fork headwaters to mouth at Green River	scenic, recreation, cultural, historic, fish	Wild
San Rafael River	Confluence of Ferron and Cottonwood Creeks to Fuller Bottom	cultural, scenic, recreation, geologic, historic, fish, wildlife, ecologic	Scenic
	Fuller Bottom to Johansen corral	cultural, scenic, recreation, geologic, historic, fish, wildlife, ecologic	Wild
	Johansen corral to Lockhart Wash	cultural, scenic, recreation, geologic, historic, fish, wildlife, ecologic	Scenic
	Lockhart Wash to Tidwell Bottom	cultural, scenic, recreation, geologic, historic, fish, wildlife, ecologic	Wild
	Tidwell Bottom to mouth at Green River	cultural, scenic, recreation, geologic, historic, fish, wildlife, ecologic	Scenic
South Fork Coal Wash	Head of wash to Eva Conover Route	recreation, scenic, cultural, historic	Wild
	Eva Conover route to confluence with North Fork Coal Wash	recreation, scenic, cultural, historic	Recreational

The Price Field Office has coordinated with the Manti La Sal National Forest and agrees with their preliminary determination that Huntington Creek and Straight Canyon Creek are eligible for Wild and Scenic River designation. Both rivers enter lands administered by the BLM and flow a short distance before the eligible segments end. The Price Field Office has also coordinated with the Vernal Field Office of the BLM to make the preliminary determination that Argyle Canyon is eligible from headwaters to Nine Mile Creek.

